FBIS DAILY REPORT

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GARCIA MEZA WILLING TO WORK WITH POLITICAL PARTIES

PY241612 Paris AFP in Spanish 0500 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] La Paz, 23 Feb (AFP)--It was reported here today that Bolivian President Luis Garcia Meza has shaken the political circles of the nation with his announcement in the city of Tarija, southern Bolivia, that he is willing to cooperate with political parties, including the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR). In a speech made over the weekend, Garcia Meza stated that he is prepared to receive proposed plans for cooperation and activities of the various political parties, be they the National Revolutionary Movement (MNR), the Bolivian Socialist Falange (FSB), the People's Democratic Union (UDP) or the MIR.

Political analysts have been completely baffled by the president's failure to mention among the parties which could cooperate with him the Nationalist Democratic Alliance (ADN), which is led by former President Hugo Banzer Suarez. It is recalled that all Bolivian political parties have been in recess since the 17 July military coup d'etat, and that nothing has been done to change this situation. The analysts' surprise was further heightened by the fact that in all previous speeches, the president had termed extremists all leaders of the UDP, the front led by Hernan Siles Zuazo which obtained a relative majority during the latest elections. Surprise turned into amazement when the president admitted the possibility of cooperating with the MIR, the political party of which eight leaders were killed in a clash with police on 15 January, according to the official report.

It is recalled that Interior Minister Luis Arce Gomez has charged MIR leader in exile Jaime Paz Zamora with systematically undermining the prestige of the military regime for which he would never be allowed to return to the country. Some observers believe that the presidential statement is linked with the implementation of an organized democracy which he announced several weeks ago. There is a great deal of expectation regarding any further actions which General Garcia Meza could undertake to implement his offer of cooperation with the main Bolivian political parties.

FINANCE MINISTER RULES OUT POSSIBLE DEVALUATION

PY241049 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Finance Minister Jose Sanchez Calderon today ruled out the possibility of a currency devaluation as a consequence of the strong inflationary pressure which has taken place in the country. The government is not planning currency devaluation and the measures which are being taken are basically aimed at reviving the Bolivian economy, the finance minister stressed.

On the other hand, the minister expressed concern at the budget deficit of the nation, totaling 8 billion pesos. The government has initiated measures to overcome this deficit. He also repeated that the economic corrective measures dictated by the government have the purpose of helping overcome the economic crisis which has hit the country, but the results can only be learned after an assessment of them.

He further maintained that it was necessary to increase investments in the country to stimulate the economy of the nation.

ITAMARATY SPOKESMAN NOTES POSITION ON EL SALVADOR

PY241308 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Excerpts] President Figueiredo met with Gen Vernon Walters, President Ronald Reagan's special envoy, for 1 hour yesterday. President Figueiredo received a document from General Walters, who stated that this document confirms Soviet intervention, via Cuba, in the Salvadoran crisis.

Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas agreed to an interview with Radio Bandeirantes at the end of the meeting, to discuss the Brazilian Government's position regarding the Salvadoran crisis.

[Begin recording] [Pericas] The documents presented by General Walters will certainly be thoroughly studied by the Brazilian Government.

[Question] General Walters said that the United States expects understanding from its allies. How can this statement be understood?

[Answer] I feel that understanding must necessarily exist between countries which have good relations, as in the case of Brazil and the United States. I do not know in what context General Walters used this term understanding, but I do think that there exists good understanding in Brazilian-U.S. relations.

[Question] How far will Brazil go in supporting the United States on this problem? Perhaps up to a possible intervention?

[Answer] I cannot answer your question because it is hypothetical and includes facts of which I still am unaware.

[Question] Brazil is against intervention in the domestic affairs of other countries, and as the general said, if Soviet or Cuban intervention is confirmed, could Brazil support what we would call a counterintervention?

[Answer] Again you are asking me a hypothetical question. I cannot anticipate the development of the Salvadoran crisis. I can only say that the Brazilian Government hopes for a peaceful solution of the problem. We are certainly concerned over the difficult domestic situation in El Salvador, a country with which we have good friendly relations. We hope that this situation will be solved peacefully and the crisis overcome as soon as possible. [end recording]

GENERALS WANT OAS MEDIATION ON SALVADORAN CRISIS

PY241607 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 23 Feb 81 p 3

[Text] A solution to the El Salvador problem within the framework of the OAS and according to the principles of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty was considered possible yesterday by Gen Ruy de Paula Couto, chief of the Army Ministry's General Service Department.

The general stated: "A solution to this problem can be found within the OAS through diplomatic channels. I believe Itamaraty will reflect the Brazilian position very well; as it has already demonstrated on several occasions." He also admitted differences between the crisis in Santo Domingo in the 1960's, when Brazilian military troops participated in an international peace force, and the El Salvador crisis. The statement of General Paula Couto, an officer of the army high command, reflects the opinion of other military officers on this issue. Most of them believe in a solution through diplomatic channels without the need to create a peace force with Brazilian participation. They also feel that the position of the Brazilian Government will not affect relations with the United States.

CONGO FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS, SIGNS COMMUNIQUE

PY241904 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 Feb 81 p 6

[Excerpts] Brazil and the People's Republic of the Congo yesterday stressed the "importance of the South Atlantic, not only for the two countries but for the Latin American and African coastal countries as well, and emphasized also their desire that this ocean serve as means of rapprochement and development of relations between the two friendly countries on opposite shores, within a climate of peace." This statement is included in the joint communique released at the end of the official visit to Brazil by Congolese Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Pierre Nze.

The two countries signed an agreement of economic, scientific and cultural cooperation and established the basis for the sale of petroleum to Brazil, but without establishing the amount. At a press conference, the visitor admitted that the energy issue was extensively discussed with Brazilian officials and that there are possibilities for Brazil to build hydroelectric dams and highways in Congo, and to participate in educational projects in the field of professional training.

President Figueiredo received Pierre Nze in his office at Planalto Palace yesterday afternoon. He was accompanied by Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, but the press, as usual, had access to the place only for a few minutes during the initial exchange of greetings. Pedro Maia Moura, Agricultural Ministry secretary general, reported yesterday after a meeting with the Congolese minister, that Nze admitted the possibility of his country importing weapons, rice, manioc and corn in view of the food shortage that the Congo is facing. Maia added that the African representative also expressed interest in learning more details of the agricultural techniques adopted in northern Brazil, because this region has climate characteristics similar to his country, where the African oilpalm [dende] the babassu, black pepper and cocoa are cultivated.

CUBAN NOTE ON EMBASSY SEIZURE 'FLATLY REJECTED'

PA250033 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2320 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Communique issued by Foreign Relations Ministry of Ecuador to Foreign Relations Ministry of Cuba; date not given--read by announcer from the Foreign Ministry building]

[Text] The Foreign Relations Ministry of Ecuador very respectfully greets the honorable Foreign Relations Ministry of the Republic of Cuba. Regarding your note of 22 February of this year, this ministry has to flatly reject it.

All the whereases that the honorable Foreign Relations Ministry of Cuba tries to present as evidence of scrupulous respect for international law and, specifically, for the Vienna Convention, are voided by the last paragraph, where in a completely unacceptable manner it is stated: In cases such as this one in which the diplomatic representatives of any country lose control over their diplomatic missions in Cuba, the Government of Cuba will feel it has the right, which it will exercise above other considerations, to reestablish the violated legality, to guarantee the lives and safety of diplomats and to return to the pertinent government complete enjoyment of its jurisdiction over the occupied mission.

Apparently, this criterion is as wrong as the one that led the Cuban Government to take Ecuador's Embassy in Havana by force. This action cannot be accepted or tolerated by my country. I repeat that at no moment did any Ecuadorean authority agree with a step of this nature.

Neither the president, whose statements have been clear and public, nor the foreign minister, nor the ambassador in Havana, nor the delegates, approved it. On the contrary, when the ambassador of Cuba in Quito gave the national government the happy news that the Ecuadorean diplomats had been released, the Ecuadorean foreign minister emphasized that the occupiers of the embassy were still under the protection of the Government of Ecuador and that there would be no justification for military operations or actions.

In view of this, the Foreign Relations Ministry of Ecuador announces to the Foreign Relations Ministry of Cuba that the possibilities of normal relations between the two governments require, in addition to the satisfaction that the case demands because of your seizing control of the embassy, the satisfaction of one single point: respect for human integrity and rights, which in this case must be manifested in the protection that Ecuador must effectively exercise over all the Cubans who occupied the embassy.

This is the point on which the Ecuadorean Government expects a positive response.

The Foreign Relations Ministry of Ecuador takes advantage of this opportunity to reiterate to the Foreign Relations Ministry of Cuba its highest and most distinguished considerations.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON PERUVIAN BORDER DISPUTE

Officials Discuss Dispute

PA242105 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Excerpt] There is much anticipation at the Presidential Palace regarding official pronouncements on the hostile situation following the new, repeated attacks by the Peruvian military force. Here are some statements on the matter; first, by Osvaldo Rossi Alvarado, vice president of the Constitutional Guarantees Tribunal:

[Begin recording] [Rossi] I think part of what had been said before is taking place. Since Peru has stationed its troops at the site where they have been since the conflict began, the country cannot consider that the conflict is over.

[Question] We would like to know if the president has again requested special powers in view of the new emergency situation?

[Answer] No, not yet. I remind you that the country is in a state of emergency. The fact that he has issued a decree repealing six of the seven powers of the group of powers did not modify the general state of emergency. [end recording]

Dr Galo Garcia Feraud, minister of public education and culture, briefly said:

[Begin recording] Any act of aggression of this type deserves to be rejected and reproached and calls for our repeated defense of the nation.

[Question] How are the draft registration and the draft going?

[Answer] The draft and registration for it are being studied by the Defense Ministry. Civil defense is up to the national directorate in charge of that and, for civic education and national culture as planned for junior and senior year in the high schools and teachers colleges, we will appoint a special committee so that, along with the national planning director, a program will be outlined which really meets the requirements we as Ecuadoreans have for the proper formation of a clear national awareness. [end recording]

Demilitarized Zone Reported

PA250101 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2313 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] Quito, 24 Feb (EFE)--Galo Plaza Lasso, former OAS secretary general and former president of Ecuador, said today that the Ecuadorean-Peruvian conflict will be resolved by the establishment of a demilitarized zone of approximately 15 km. [as received]

In a meeting with businessmen, Plaza said that the parties have accepted this peace formula proposed by the four mediator countries.

The demilitarized zone is located in the Condor Mountain Range, in the middle of the amazon jungle, which was the scene of an undeclared war in late January and early February that broke out again last weekend.

The proponents of the peace initiative were Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States, the same countries that achieved the preliminary cease-fire agreement on 2 February.

In his speech, Plaza said he was happy to give Ecuadorean people advance notice of this event which, he said, had been "confirmed by official sources."

The former president was Ecuador's delegate to the 10th meeting of consultation of American foreign ministers held in Washington from 2 to 4 February to discuss the border conflict between Ecuador and Peru.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON PERU-BOLIVIA CONFLICT

Foreign Minister's Statement

PY241355 Paris AFP in Spanish 0222 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Lima, 23 Feb (AFP)--Peruvian Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella today reiterated his country's confidence in the guarantors of the border treaty with Ecuador and praised their astuteness in the search for a solution to the conflict. The minister, who met with the foreign press this afternoon, expressed satisfaction over the announcement made for the first time yesterday that the border incidents took place on the Peruvian sector of the Condor Mountain Range, a fact which proves that Peru is not the aggressor.

The foreign minister, who again attended a meeting of the National Defense Council this morning, denied that a new incident took place on the border yesterday and emphasized that the situation remains calm. He explained, however, that the Peruvian position continues to be the position outlined in the official documents, particularly the latest communique released last Saturday stating that a new Ecuadorean attack will be considered a declaration of war.

Arias Stella also distributed among the journalists a memorandum on the background and conclusions of the border treaty, called the peace and friendship protocol, signed, as guarantors, by Brazil, the United States, Argentina and Chile in Rio de Janeiro in 1942. The document states that the Ecuadorean claim that Ecuador lost 200,000 square kilometers because of the protocol is absolutely false and also injurious to Peru.

He also said that peace, which Peru honestly desires, can only be insured if Ecuador fulfills its international commitments and decides to delimit the few kilometers still left unmarked in the Condor Mountain Range.

Regarding the guarantors, the minister praised their work and reiterated his country's confidence in them. He emphasized the dedication and astuteness shown by the guarantors since January in the search by all possible means to overcome the current crisis. He said that they have fully assumed their responsibilities, but he did not, however, give any details of the type of solution they are searching for.

He also expressed satisfaction over the guarantor's communique released yesterday giving the precise location on the Condor Mountain Range where the incidents took place. He explained that according to the communique the incidents took place in the eastern or Peruvian sector of the mountain range in the subtropical jungle, a fact which confirms the thesis maintained by Peru from the start.

He also said that an eventual break of diplomatic relations with Ecuador was never discussed and that Peru is maintaining friendly relations with all interested sectors.

President Fernando Belaunde again met this morning at Government House with the National Defense Council made up of the ministers of the three branches of the armed forces, the foreign minister and the commanders of the army, navy and air force. Today, just as yesterday when the council held a meeting, there was no information on the matters discussed as none of the council members said anything to the press.

Col Washington Garcia, military attache of the Chilean Embassy in Lima, said that the resumption of visits by observers representing the guarantors to the border depends on the arrival of the U.S. helicopter. The United States, as a neutral country, has provided helicopters to Peru and Ecuador for the observers to use in order not to make the situation touchy by the use of Peruvian or Ecuadorean helicopters.

Garcia said in conclusion that the observers' mission will take as long as necessary depending basically on the rapprochement between Peru and Ecuador.

Ulloa on Demilitarized Zone

PA250152 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0125 GMT 25 Feb 81

[Text] Lima, 24 Feb (EFE)--Peruvian Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa told EFE today that the next 24 hours will be "crucial" for the solution of the Peru-Ecuador conflict.

In Quito, former Ecuadorean President Galo Plaza said that Peru and Ecuador have accepted a peace formula proposed by the countries which are guarantors of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol, the formula being the establishment of a demilitarized zone in the Condor Mountain Range.

But Ulloa told EFE that "there is no basis for this on our part." Ulloa said that "very intensive" talks are underway at this time with the guarantor countries (the United States, Brazil, Argentina and Chile). "Peru has expressed some stipulations regarding the limits that it can accept for these military talks, but we are awaiting the reply on the guarantors," he said. Ulloa said that this reply has not yet been given, but said that "the next 24 hours will be crucial."

Peru on Monday reiterated its confidence in the work of the guarantors, whose military observers have been overseeing the situation on the border since 2 February. On that day, a cease-fire went into effect between Peru and Ecuador. It was broken on Friday when Peru reported that Ecuador had downed one of its army helicopters, killing 1 person and injuring 13.

Observers' Inspection of Border

PY241602 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] The observers for the guarantor countries of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol will return to the Peruvian-Ecuadorean border today or tomorrow to inspect the area where the cease-fire has been violated by Ecuador [words indistinct]. The Chilean military attache in Lima, Col Washington Garcia, representative of one of the four guarantor countries, has reported that two U.S.-made UH twin-turbine helicopters are being assembled in Quito. These helicopters will be used to overfly the border between the two countries in the region of the Condor Mountain Range.

Garcia did not say how long the inspection will continue because, he said, "this depends on the talks between the two countries. In the meantime our presence is necessary." The other observers accredited to Peru are Col Fernando Saint Amant from Argentina, Norberto Monteiro from Brazil, and Robert Spurrier from the United States.

Guarantors Note

241422 Paris AFP in Spanish 0331 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] Lima, 23 Feb (AFP)--It has been officially reported here that the representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States, which are mediating the dispute between Peru and Ecuador, have verified that the incidents reported last Friday and Saturday took place on the eastern slope of the Condor Mountain Range. The Peruvian Foreign Ministry released a note issued by the four guarantor countries meeting in Brasilia. The guarantor countries express their concern in the note over the violation of the cease-fire agreed upon by Ecuador and Peru. These incidents were reported on 20 and 21 February on the eastern slope of the Condor Mountain Range.

According to Peruvian officials, the border established by the 1942 border agreement runs from the summit of the Condor Mountain Range, the eastern slope belongs to Peru, and Western slope to Ecuador. The note issued by the guarantor countries appeals to both Peru and Ecuador to respect the cease-fire agreed upon on 2 February. It also states the urgent need to enforce the measures proposed by the four guarantor countries to evacuate troops from the area of conflict.

Foreign Ministry Delcaration

PY241731 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] The Peruvian Foreign Ministry has issued a declaration pointing out that the 1942 Rio de Janeiro Protocol did not deprive Ecuador of any land. The declaration emphasized that the protocol simply confirmed Peru's rights over this area of land which it has legally owned ever since its independence. The Foreign Minsitry delcaration stated that the information sent out by foreign press agency correspondents in Lima must be truthful, and added that this request must in no way be construed as an attempt to violate freedom of expression. According to reports sent out from Lima, Ecuador lost 200,000 square kms of land due to the Rio de Janeiro Protocol. The Foreign Ministry has stated that this information is absolutely false and needlessly offensive.

According to the Peruvian Foreign Ministry, the 1942 Rio de Janeiro Protocol is the only treaty on borders in force between Ecuador and Peru, and therefore it is impossible to lose what never has been legally owned. The 1942 Rio de Janeiro Protocol is mainly a peace treaty reached thanks to the friendly help of other American countries which put an end to the armed confrontation unleashed by Ecuador.

Comment of Ambassador to U.S.

PY241605 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] The Peruvian attitude toward the conflict with Ecuador has caused a good impression abroad, according to the first vice president and ambassador to United States, Fernando Schwalb Lopez Aldana. Lopez Aldana made this statement at Jorge Chavez International Airport upon his arrival from the United States.

The ambassador will spend 3 weeks in the country and will meet with President Fernando Belaunde Terry. Lopez Aldana indicated that Ecuador must understand that its sorties into Peruvian territory will lead nowwhere. He added that Peru wants peace and friendly atmosphere that will enable to carry out economic development programs.

Ambassador Lopez Aldana said Peru has absolute confidence not only in its strength, but also in its legal position. He also discussed the cutbacks in U.S. economic aid for Latin America by the Reagan administration. He indicated that all Latin American ambassadors accredited to Washington have closely studied this situation, especially the status of the IDB whose operations are considered very important.

INTERIOR MINISTER: SHINING PATH LEADER CAPTURED

PY241931 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Peruvian Interior Minister Jose Maria de la Jara y Ureta has announced that the police have captured a high-ranking leader of the extremist group Shining Path. The minister indicated that the extremist leader is Luis Cahuate Macabe, a university professor. When questioned, the extremist leader confessed to being a member of the group's leadership but denied being responsible for any of the terrorist acts which have been carried out since the middle of last year.

In his talk with the journalists, the interior minister indicated that during the latest meeting of the Council of Ministers his ministry had submitted a draft anti terrorist decree. He explained that the draft was a 3-page introduction and the decree itself has 14 articles. The minister explained that the draft first established the types of crimes which can be considered terrorist and then goes on to set the appropriate punishments, of which long-term imprisonment is the severest.

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT, BAHAMIAN LEADER AT BANQUET

President on Military Danger

FL241645 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0715 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Feb (NOTIMEX)--It is difficult to defend the principle of self-determination against the resolute arrogance of military power, but it is even more difficult to do that in an area of hegemonic confrontation, Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo stated last night during a banquet he hosted in honor of Lynden Pindling, prime minister of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

It is most unfortunate, the Mexican head of state noted, that this region has been raised to the undesirable rank of strategic frontier.

The crisis, whose temporary epicenter is the Salvadoran conflict, has become a spiral which threatens to involve all states in the area.

That is why it is necessary to avoid the internationalization of the crisis through a joint policy whose objective should be to preserve rigidly the principles of self-determination and nonintervention.

The Mexican president stated that we must reiterate our warning that intervention of super-powers in internal conflicts taking place in some Central American and Caribbean nations could become an international danger. At this time, an unwise decision could intensify world tension.

We are certain that a military solution is not viable and that only a political solution will permit the restoration of peace in the region. We know that the Government of the Bahamas shares our concern over this problem which is affecting the foundations of our bilateral and multilateral relations.

President Lopez Portillo said that in the face of problems of tension and solution by force we are trying to demonstrate that it is possible to establish in the area a reasonable order based on respect for reciprocal interests of peace.

He pointed out that the capability of young states to preserve their political and economic self-determination will depend, to a great degree, on the destiny of American harmonious relations.

We know that all human endeavor is based, primarily, on the exercise of resolve and such is the case in tasks involving international cooperation.

In the case of the Bahamas and Mexico there is an explicit willingness to strengthen relations and we have at hand, additionally, the needed technical capability to determine the fields in which these relations can develop more satisfactorily.

We also have the means to broaden the sphere of our cooperation and we should do it for mutual benefit and to add one more link of goodwill to the long chain of goodwill on which the fragile world peace depends, especially in this area which is a geographic victim of the historic might of imperial ambitions.

Cooperation Pledged

FL241840 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Lionel Dorsett report from Mexico City--live]

[Excerpt] The prime minister of the Bahamas, the Right Honorable Lynden Pindling, and the president of Mexico, Senor Jose Lopez Portillo, last evening both pledged friendship and cooperation between their two countries. The occasion was the state dinner hosted by the president in honor of the prime minister and Mrs Pindling.

President Lopez Portillo told the prime minister that his visit was particularly gratifying and opportune. We welcome you, he said, as the friend of Mexico and as the leader of a nation growing in importance in the Atlantic region, where very different cultural traditions meet and intermingle. Stressing the need for strong ties with the Caribbean and the Latin America area, President Lopez Portillo noted that unlike the principal nations of Europe who have established their culture over widespread areas, the nations in this hemisphere have become the site of isolated enclaves. Geographical insularity, he said, has become political insularity. The president said despite differences in languages, customs, structures, emerging nations of the Caribbean constitute a new geopolitical configuration. The lack of meaningful dialogue with generic neighbors, the inevitable result of colonial organization, is gradually being replaced by a constant search for regional exchanges.

He concluded by saying that Mexicans have always considered the people of the Bahamas to be an English-speaking branch of the family and therefore viewed their desire to strengthen their ties with Mexico not as a beginning but simply as a return to their roots.

Prime Minister Pindling called his visit to Mexico an historic one as it represents the first time that the Bahamas had the honor and the privilege of participating on a government-to-government basis in mutual exchanges with a Latin American neighbor country. The prime minister went on to say:

[Begin recording] We are acutely aware of the [words indistinct] with which you manage the petroleum sector of your economy and your successful attempts at transforming your manufacturing and agricultural industries to meet the needs of the modern international economy. Your strides in the areas of industrial development, foreign trade, banking and finance and even tourism, are second to none among the more developed economies. In short, from the point of view of the Bahamas's search for an appropriate model after which to pattern some of our plans for social and economic [word indistinct] the Mexicans' experience appears to be eminently (?suitable).

We are hopeful, therefore, that this newly established relationship between our two countries will in some way afford us the opportunity to look more closely at, and perhaps extract some examples from, that model. Nevertheless, we are mindful that progressive and sustained [word indistinct] relationships are based on the principle of reciprocity. So, in spite of our limited experiences and our even more limited resources, we are most prepared to consider in a similar manner anything that would further strengthen the ties between Mexico and the Bahamas. Mr President, ladies and gentlemen, I once again take this opportunity to thank the government and people of the United States of Mexico for the splendid efforts that they have demonstrated in making us feel so welcome in your friendly and beautiful Mexico. Thank you all very much. [applause] [end recording]

EXPANDED RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA TO BE SOUGHT

FL242241 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2228 GMT 24 Feb 81

[By Enrique Alvarez Manilla]

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 24 Feb (NOTIMEX)--The new Indonesian ambassador to Mexico, Husni Thamrin Pane, has expressed to President Jose Lopez Portillo the willingness of the Indonesian Government to support Mexico on all the initiatives it has proposed at the international level.

The diplomat asserted the aforementioned moments after the ceremony in which he presented his credentials to the president of Mexico. He told the president that Indonesia and Mexico can help to improve the world situation.

He added that President Lopez Portillo instructed Secretary (Minister) of Foreign Relations Jorge Castaneda that the various aspects of bilateral relations between the two nations be examined carefully and to seek the best way to expanding them.

Regarding the nonaligned countries meeting recently held in India, the diplomat emphasized that it must not be forgotten that differences exist among the developing countries.

BULGARIAN BUSINESSMEN SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENT

FL241353 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0413 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Feb (NOTIMEX)--Mexico is to export manufactured goods to Bulgaria during 1981-83. This was reported by Deputy Secretary of Foreign Trade Hector Hernandez Cervantes when he opened a series of economic talks sponsored by the Bulgarian People's Republic.

This is the second protocol to the trade agreement signed in May 1977, he said, and it will help strengthen relations between the two countries and make more dynamic trade easier.

The agreement provides for agricultural cooperation, the establishment of agro-industrial cooperatives in Guerrero State, a number of industrial projects in several sectors, and the setting up of a pharmaceutical company to manufacture antibiotics on a large scale. It also establishes a new mechanism to increase trade in Mexican manufactured products.

On his part, Petar Rusev, chairman of the Bulgarian Chamber of Trade and Industry, said that prospects for Bulgarian-Mexican cooperation are broad ones since they are carried out on the principles of equality and mutual benefit.

At these talks, Mexican and Bulgarian businessmen signed a cooperation agreement. It was signed by Agustin Jurado, representative of the Business Council of International Affairs (CEMAI) for Mexico, and by Petar Rusev, of the Bulgarian chamber.

COSTA RICA

CARAZO SILENT ON U.S. PRESENCE IN CARIBBEAN

PA242151 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Excerpts] President Rodrigo Carazo has declined to comment on a report from Washington that the largest ever concentration of U.S. warships is now in the Caribbean at a time when the United States is preparing to take steps against the supplying of arms to guerrillas in El Salvador by the Soviet Union and its allies.

Carazo said a few minutes ago that he expects confirmation of this report from international news agencies through official channels in order to make an official statement, as he does not agree with intervention by any side or an eventful internationalization of the conflict in El Salvador.

We repeat: President Carazo has declined to specifically comment on the report from Washington that the United States has deployed and massed an unprecedented number of warships in the Caribbean to prevent arms from being supplied to the guerrillas fighting against the Salvadoran Government junta.

CUBANS REPORTEDLY RECEIVED FORGED PASSPORTS

PA241705 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] Employees of the Immigration Department who are currently under investigation apparently have been involved in the forgery of diplomatic passports sold to the Cubans who left the country.

According to persons connected with the investigation of this matter at the Security Ministry, several hundred of these passports were forged and sold at very high prices. The justice minister said the culprits will be punished as soon as she gets the records the security ministry will send her.

INVESTIGATION OF ATTACK ON RADIO STATION CONTINUES

PA241700 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] The investigations regarding the raid on Radio Noticias del Continente have been extended.

Attorney General Roberto Steiner said the investigations he is conducting on the operation at the installations of Radio Noticias del Continente will last longer than expected because several persons who may have been involved in this action, during which several war weapons were confiscated, will have to be subpoenaed. Therefore, it will not be possible to deliver the report on the case this week to President Rodrigo Carazo, who asked for the investigation. The executive branch made the request following charges that one of the guards at the station's installations had been tortured.

Security Deputy Minister Alfredo Blanco Odio rendered testimony yesterday at the judicial body's offices. Other officials testified also, but judicial branch spokesmen said no information would be given in that regard so as not to hinder investigations.

Several immigration officials will be summoned before the judicial police in the next few days because the traffic with Cubans apparently took place with the complicity of these public employees.

TRADE AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH MEXICO, VENEZUELA

FL242153 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2139 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] San Jose, Costa Rica, 24 Feb (NOTIMEX)--Important Costa Rican Government officials are optimistic after learning the result of the first efforts made in Venezuela and Mexico to balance the trade deficit with these two countries.

Costa Rica traditionally has an unfavorable trade balance with Mexico and Venezuela, the two nations that provide Costa Rica's oil needs, which are estimated at $240 million annually at current [oil] prices. The trade deficit fluctuates around that same figure because Costa Rican exports to its crude oil suppliers are almost nil. This situation is what Costa Rican officials want to change and to this end, Vice President and Minister of Economy Jose Miguel Alfaro recently visited Caracas and Mexico City.

On his return, he revealed that sales to Mexico of 50,000 tons of rice from the current harvest have been finalized. That volume will increase to 10,000 tons [as received] next year. The entire output of the state enterprise Cementos del Pacifico also has been assured in the Mexican market.

Officials are promoting contacts between the private sectors of the two countries so as to sell to Mexico the surpluses of meat, furniture, shoes, motorcyclist helmets and other manufactured products. Minister Alfaro announced that a Mexican commercial mission will arrive in San Jose in the next few days to negotiate the lists of trade products for 1981.

With regard to Venezuela, the first trade agreements are on Costa Rican poultry production, and the placing of chicken, eggs and some byproducts in the Venezuelan market has been assured.

FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS TALKS WITH FRG OFFICIALS

For Hamburg reportage on Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus Quesada's talks with FRG officials and on the joint communique issued on his visit, see the West German section of the 25 February Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

EL SALVADOR

SOME GROUPS WORRY ABOUT JUNTA'S OPENING TO LEFT

PA242336 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 24 Feb 81 pp 3, 11

[Text] Some local sectors are deeply concerned upon learning that the government junta leaders are willing to hold talks with the leftists. The news of this possibility was released last weekend in Bonn, the FRG. According to the international dispatch, revolutionary government junta representatives Ivo Priamo Alvarenga, Salvadoran ambassador to Italy, and Amilcar Martinez Arguera, general director of the Salvadoran Foreign Ministry Political Department, said in Bonn that the Salvadoran junta was willing "to hold talks with the revolutionary opposition to stop the bloodshed in that Central American country."

These same local sectors said that "if the Salvadoran junta is really thinking about holding a dialogue with the leftists, it could also mean that it would be willing to make concessions to the leftists, whose main objective is to seize power by any means, as they themselves have often said."

We all know that some extreme leftist leaders were members of the government junta. Guillermo Manuel Ungo, currently the president of the Revolutionary Democratic Front, was one of the first members of the government junta, as was Salvador Samayoa, who resigned as education minister to join the Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces, and there are many others who have done the same." Some of these former government junta officials thought that they could stage a coup d'etat from within, but when they failed, they quit the government.

COMMENTARY NOTES U.S. DOCUMENT ON USSR AID

PA242146 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1758 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] The international and local press today reported on a communist plan uncovered in the United States. The press reported the discovery of a large-scale plan, and extensive revelations are made in a white book prepared by the U.S. Government to outline the clear Soviet support for the subversives who are active in our country and to attempt to establish a basis for as-yet-undetermined actions against communist activity in the turbulent Caribbean region.

Confirmation of these subversive activities is contained in papers confiscated from the Salvadoran Communist Party and the People's Revolutionary Party, ERP, which are involved in the insurgency against the revolutionary government junta, which is making basic changes in the sociopolitical system.

The junta is a considerable step ahead of the subversives because it is already taking action instead of practicing demagoguery. [words indistinct] from several parts of the world the government's activities, with regard to the fact that it is already delivering the documents which give the long-neglected peasant sectors ownership of the land they cultivate.

The information adds that the documents contained in the white book indicate the willingness of our enemies at home and abroad to make El Salvador the first absolutely communist country of the hemisphere since Cuba.

Reports on the Soviet threat, in the Salvadoran conflict reveal in detail a situation that has been escalating for some time and, as Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez said recently during the graduation ceremony at the Capt Gen Gerardo Barrios Military Academy, the [words indistinct] situation of the Salvadoran people has been used as a pretext, but it is the great Soviet interests that have created the entire situation now being experienced firsthand by the suffering people, who have demonstrated their repudiation of imperialism of any kind, regardless of its source.

The people stand upright always and will never bow to the invaders because our people are free, sovereign and independent.

REPORTAGE ON CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING MAJANO

Military: No Decision

PA242243 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 24 Feb 81 p 3

[Text] This newspaper learned from military sources that nothing has been decided about Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano. The same sources added that "anything said about the former member of the government junta is mere speculation."

The military sources said that "armed forces members go by a military code and since Colonel Majano is a member of the armed forces, it is up to a military court to reach a decision about him."

The sources explained that "Majano will be dealt with according to the military code and not according to what a military commander or officer thinks."

These explanations were necessary when rumors began circulating yesterday that the armed forces general staff and garrison commanders were holding a secret meeting to decide Majano's fate.

Arrested Guerrilla on Majano

PA242226 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2135 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Col Adolfo Majano, former member of the Salvadoran Government junta, supplied weapons to the rebels, according to a statement made today by an alleged former Sandinist official who was a commander of the Salvadoran guerrillas for 1 year and who is now under arrest.

"Colonel Majano was known among the guerrillas as 'Majanito.' In May and July, 1980, he attempted two coups d'etat. They were not carried out, but two other very important objectives were achieved: the division of the Salvadoran Army and the provision of weapons and ammunition to the guerrillas," the Nicaraguan said.

The prisoner said that his name is Orlando Gardencilla Tinoco, that he is a Nicaraguan lieutenant, is 18 years old, and came to El Salvador as the commander of the (?central) front of the Armed Forces for National Resistance (FARN). He said he led 130 guerrillas.

The prisoner was captured by the Salvadoran Army on 30 January, and in exchange for proper treatment and guarantees of personal safety, he gave detailed information to the military on his activities and the guerrilla structures.

Colonel Adolfo Majano, a former member of the Salvadoran revolutionary government junta, was dismissed from the junta on 15 December and went underground until last week, when he was arrested by a national security unit. He is now being held by the armed forces.

Colonel Majano is accused of disobeying an order to go to Madrid to serve as military attache in the Salvadoran Embassy in Spain. Moreover, he may be charged with arms trafficking and insubordination.

Further Details

PA250425 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2337 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--A former Sandinist lieutenant who was recently arrested by the Salvadoran Army said today that the Salvadoran guerrillas have received approximately 12 tons of arms from abroad.

The Sandinist stated: "The Salvadoran guerrillas receive total and open support from the socialist sector of the world. What happens is that this support takes place at the finance level, mainly, so that they may buy weapons on the black market."

The prisoner of war noted: "Cuba sends money to the guerrillas. It also sends arms, but it gives more money than arms so that the government does not get implicated. Although 12 tons of arms have been sent to El Salvador, this represents only 1 percent of what is at the disposal of the guerrillas outside the country."

The former Sandinist officer said his name is Orlando Gardencilla Tinoco, that he is 18 and that until 1 year ago he was a lieutenant in the Nicaraguan Army but renounced his military post to join the Salvadoran guerrillas through the Committee of Support for the Salvadoran People in Managua.

The former officer gave details on how he entered El Salvador without arms or documents. He said he was a commander in the Modesto Ramirez central front, that he belonged to the Armed Forces of National Resistance and that he had 130 guerrillas under him.

The former Sandinist officer said that when he was captured by the Salvadoran Army, he offered the information he had in exchange for good treatment and personal security.

The young Nicaraguan, who is a skillful speaker, was questioned by newsmen. He answered all questions, although on one occasion he said he did not recall the names of some of his superiors in Nicaragua since "it has been a year since I left there."

Gardencilla noted: "During my first days in El Salvador, I met with a person who was waiting for me. I conducted an infantry training course at the national university, which was closed and seized by the army 2 months later. Approximately 200 students took my classes weekly."

Gardencilla referred to the present situation of the guerrillas by noting: "The situation was stagnating, if not deteriorating. We had many casualties, and some guerrillas, seeing that we were not getting the war materiel we were expecting and that the people did not join the insurrection, left the guerrilla movement in desperation."

Commenting on the support that the guerrillas receive from other countries, Gardencilla said that Cuban advisers give logistical support through Nicaragua; that Omar Torrijos, of Panama, is seen as everybody's rear guard at this moment; and that the commitment of other countries, such as Costa Rica and Mexico, cannot be disregarded.

The former Sandinist officer said that Col Adolfo Majano was supplying the guerrillas with arms and ammunition and that he "was the political front of a military revolutionary movement that would never accept a dialogue or a pact with the revolutionary junta of the Government of El Salvador."

FMLN, FDR Communique

PA241730 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] Mexico City--The political-diplomatic commission of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] and the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR] of El Salvador has condemned the arrest of Col Adolfo Majano.

The commission demanded that the U.S. Government use its power and influence on the military-Christian Democratic junta to obtain respect for Majano's physical and moral integrity as well as his release.

In a communique released 24 hours after Majano's arrest, the commission stressed that this unjust act is further evidence of the establishment of an entire process of despotic and systematic repression by the junta against the honest and democratic sectors in the armed forces.

The commission feels that this is evidence of the isolation of a regime that finds itself forced to exert massive and selective repression against all political and social sectors struggling against it as well as the lack of interest on the part of the junta to pave the way for a process of dialogue and agreement among the country's civic forces.

In conclusion, the FMLN and the FDR urge all democratic governments to demand Colonel Majano's immediate release.

Interview With Young Officers

PA241710 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Station interview with "young officers" Lt Col Ricardo Bruno Navarrete, Capt Marcelo Cruz Cruz and Capt Francisco Emilio Mena Sandoval "somewhere on the Francisco Sanchez eastern front;" date not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Why do you think the dictatorship has begun this persecution of Colonel Majano, one of the young officers, which culminated last Friday with Majano's arrest?

[Navarrete] Two factors could be at work here, the first being Colonel Majano's clean-cut personality for which he is known among the masses and which has placed him, in the past few months, and almost from the beginning, in a position of leadership. Everyone in the streets, in the markets, in restaurants, saw Colonel Majano as a solution, a democratic way out. From this viewpoint, it could be said that Duarte and his clique began to be jealous of his great popularity with the people and, seeing the possibility of his aspiring in time to power through elections, they began to regard Colonel Majano as a rival, without his desiring this. Of course, this was not advantageous to Duarte and his followers, so they thought of eliminating him. This is the only reason because they have no other reason for turning against him.

Where the military command is concerned, it is obvious that the honest officers, the young military officers and practically the entire armed forces, in view of the (?events) of 15 October 1979 in which the only person who won unanimous appointment to the junta was Majano. [as heard] Jealous of this popularity, they began to look for ways to cast him aside. At first they accused him of communism, of being affiliated with the Mexican Communist Party, which was completely untrue, as was demonstrated. Later, they began to accuse him of belonging to mass organizations, for the purpose of [words indistinct]. This is completely untrue because everyone in the armed forces knows of his constitutional mentality.

Majano has done everything possible to enhance the armed forces and none of his thoughts, his writings, his attitudes, his decisions, have been the result of pressure or orders from anyone. He has followed solely and exclusively his own honest convictions. He has made his own decisions and maintained them like a man of honor according to his own concepts.

Therefore, as he was being expelled from the junta by a maneuver that he could not accept as a man of honor, he had to flee. He did not take up clandestine activities, as has been charged. He was protected by friends and comrades without the support of any organization. This is practically the best proof that he has never been a member of mass organizations at any time.

[Question] Now we would like to ask Capt Marcelo Cruz Cruz if there was really an attempt to demoralize [words indistinct] to chop off let us say, the young officers movement in the person of one of its most representative officers. What could you say about this?

[Cruz] What options are open to the young military officers? Undoubtedly, if the young officers are looking out for the people's benefit and have fought to give the people freedom and justice, the only path open is to go to meet the people. That is why, even within that demoralization, despite that plan to demoralize the young officers, decisions are being made. That is why, at this moment, the young officers are considered representative by the people and their organizations.

Therefore, I answer your question by saying that the demoralization of the young officers has been based on a plan by the oppressors of the people. However, in response to this demoralization, the young officers have chosen their path of union with the people.

[Question] Captain Mena Sandoval, with the arrest of Colonel Majano, the crisis being experienced by the military junta due to its contradictions acquires a new and important element. What could the young officers do in view of the arrest of Colonel Majano? What would be your message to the young officers to which you belong?

[Mena Sandoval] Colonel Majano's arrest is a supreme test for the crisis of our suffering people. This problem will impose a [word indistinct] task on the young officers. All the things that have to be done today [words indistinct] to include the true servitude that the people were suffering which launched the strike in 1979. Here we can clearly see the treason of the members of the high command. Now we have to add the accomplices of Christian Democracy to this problem.

The young officers cannot now enforce laws which have never been obeyed. Now the young officers must, out of dignity, demand that the high command and the Christian Democratic junta--just as Major d'Aubuisson was released not because of the dictates of constitutional law but because of politics, and just as Captain Molina Panameno was released though his case was never solved because of politics and a coverup--release Colonel Majano. The government made up of traitors of the young officers' movement has spoken of democracy. I would like to ask Colonel Garcia, who broke the laws of democracy when he tried to say in a cabinet meeting that armed [words indistinct] had priority? This is what the young officers were trying to carry out. [passage indistinct]

The young officers have specific tasks to carry out, and we must continue until we obtain the release of Colonel Majano. I also want to ask, in this message, so that all my companeros can ask themselves, and not just listen, to remember that the only member of the junta who was unanimously elected by the armed forces was Colonel Majano. You, Colonel Gutierrez, were elected by not even two votes. You, Colonel Gutierrez, the main traitor of the young officers, were put there in that junta because you deceived us. You put Garcia and (Guides Cajinoa) there to achieve your aims. You betrayed all the armed forces because they had chosen an honest man who can honestly look anyone in this country in the eye. When you picked Guitierrez, you betrayed everything that the young officers stood for.

Now, you speak of law, you want to condemn an honest man, a man who heads the young officers.

Companeros, if we were to allow this, the young officers would be sinking to the lowest depths. Now we, all the young officers, have to demand, as a first task of dignity, the release of Colonel Majano. The young officers are united with the people; they are united with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front. We, the young officers, have no commitments to any organization. We have commitments only to the people.

PANAMANIAN PDC LEADER SAYS TORRIJOS AIDS REBELS

PA241257 Paris AFP in Spanish 0137 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] San Salvador, 23 Feb (AFP)--Guillermo Cochez, secretary general of the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) of Panama, accused former Panamanian chief of state Gen Omar Torrijos, now chief of the National Guard of Panama, of supporting the Salvadoran guerrillas here today.

Cochez noted that the support Torrijos is giving the Salvadoran rebels is obvious, as it was in the case of Nicaragua 2 years ago. Cochez said this support implicates the government of President Aristides Royo.

The PDC leader says the main evidence of Paramanian support for the rebel groups in El Salvador was the discovery around the middle of last year of two planes linked to the Panamanian Air Force. The planes were found after suffering accidents over western El Salvador while transporting arms for the insurgents.

Panamanian authorities promised to investigate, but the results were never announced and it looks more like a coverup, Cochez said in a news conference.

The PDC leader said [words indistinct] lately has become a "sanctuary" for guerrillas and an arms distribution center. "Such a situation must necessarily have the okay of an important military officer," Cochez said.

Meanwhile, the Christian Democratic Union of Central America (UDCCA), today asked for the understanding and support of the governments of the region for the Salvadoran Government and "its democratization project."

UDCCA rejected any meddling in regional matters by world powers "that want to turn the isthmus into an area for political struggles."

ARMY TRACKS DOWN 'LAST GROUPS' OF TERRORISTS

PA242305 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1810 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] With all their material, technical and human resources, the armed forces have continued to pursue the last groups of terrorists hiding in the mountains and valley sin the interior of the country. The pursuit is being carried out in actions known as combing operations which take place night and day with such thoroughness that there is no chance that the groups, fleeing in confusion, will be able to avoid capture. This means that the hour of social house-cleaning is at hand for all those who, unmoved by the blood of their people, seek to create chaos to subdue the citizenry by terror and destruction.

The Salvadoran Army, a highly disciplined army with high morale, is wiping out terrorists in the national territory while at the same time seizing the shipments of weapons and ammunition coming from abroad. Every day the papers report the arrest of subversives and mercenaries involved in arms smuggling. The security forces are watching this traffic in deadly devices, and those responsible for it are being arrested. While the efficient armed forces intelligence service keeps an eye on the different ways in which the international leftist leaders seek to send weapons and ammunition to the last subversive groups, whom they have abandoned to their fate, the army is closing in on the last terrorists.

The communist subversives, who in the beginning proclaimed that they had everything ready to ascend to political power, are now totally demoralized and disorganized. The terrorists who, seeing the failure of their final offensive, are assaulting businesses and setting fires, are nothing more than common criminals against whom the security forces are proceeding in compliance with the law. The security forces are taking vigorous action against this type of lawbreaker.

GUATEMALA

LUCAS TO RETIRE TO PRIVATE LIFE AT END OF TERM

PA241933 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Recorded passages enclosed in quotations]

[Excerpts] President Lucas pointed out that he has no intention of forming a political party:

"I have no intention of forming a political party to continue in politics. So at the end of my term I will withdraw to private life and [words indistinct] therefore has no political undertones."

The president said it is possible that Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez may have met with the U.S. secretary of state, (?possibly) to discuss the case of Belize:

"It is possible the meeting might have been (?unscheduled). But that would not be strange, since the United States, which is a great power, is concerned about the problems of Latin America."

The president reiterated that Guatemala is completely alone in its struggle for the recovery of Belize and indicated that because of this, the efforts being made are sterile. But the struggle will continue to the end.

"In a fight, there are always negotiations, right? We are negotiating to see if they give us a portion of the territory. But as you will have already heard, (?they say) they will not yield a single inch. Guatemala cannot oppose, it would be sterile to oppose, any decision of the United Nations, the OAS. And, as I already told you once, at these meetings, (?the voting) was against us and our friends abstained. This means nobody is on our side. So, we will have to see how we can continue to fight to the last so as not to defraud the citizens of Guatemala, who might say we did not fight to the last before Belize gains its independence."

FOREIGN MINISTER CASTILLO TRAVELS TO U.S.

PA242122 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Acting Foreign Minister Alfonso Alonso Lima today said he has no firm knowledge of the reason for Foreign Minister Castillo Valdez' trip to Washington. However, he did point out that contacts are very important in a new administration.

[Begin recording] Foreign Minister Castillo Valdez did not give the specific reason for his trip to the United States. But as you know, it is normal for a foreign minister to travel to various countries, especially in the case of new administrations, when contacts with new officials are very useful. [end recording]

The official said he had no knowledge of an alleged meeting between Guatemalan Foreign Minister Castillo and the U.S. secretary of state. However, he admitted that Castillo Valdez would be talking with some officials of the Reagan administration.

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT 'CONCERNED' OVER BORDER INCIDENTS

PA241927 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Our government is concerned over the border incidents with Nicaragua, according to statements made this morning to Radio America by Foreign Minister Cesar Elvir Sierra:

[Begin recording] [Elvir Sierra] The Honduran Government is very concerned over the frequent incidents. Relations are normal, however, and we believe that the two governments should try to settle this matter.

[Question] Have there been any new border incidents?

[Answer] No, there have been no new incidents. [end recording]

'Slander Campaign'

PA242125 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Nicaragua is preparing a slander campaign against Honduras on the international level. The San Pedro Sula paper LA PRENSA reports that Honduran Government sources have stated that this campaign against Honduras has already begun through worldwide communications services like Radio Havana, Radio Moscow and other sources. They have been broadcasting reports which completely distort the truth about recent incidents between the Honduran Army and the Sandinists. We were told yesterday that those reports have been prepared in such a way that anyone would believe that Honduras is the aggressor nation and that its troops are committing all kinds of outrages against Nicaraguan troops stationed along the border with Honduras.

It has been said that some foreign correspondents in Nicaragua, especially those belonging to communications media sympathetic to the Sandinist revolution, have been called to the offices of the commanders to receive instructions on how to conduct the slander campaign against Honduras.

NICARAGUA CPDH OFFICIAL'S ARREST CONDEMNED

PA241606 Tegucigalpa La Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Moises de Jesus Ulloa Duarte commentary]

[Text] The whole world--and naturally the new administration in the United States--is very closely watching the events in Sandinist Nicaragua and the frequent violation of human rights there, a very important matter because it affects U.S. foreign policy.

In Marxist--or frankly, communist--regimes, human rights are disregarded as a matter of course. Nevertheless, the Sandinist government is seeking to justify the unjustifiable. This is gathered from an official communique issued by the Justice Ministry of the Sandinist government which states:

Pursuant to the powers conferred by law, and since the so-called Nicaraguan Permanent Committee for the Defense of Human Rights [CPDH] is engaged in activities other than those established in the regulations, this ministry resolves:

1. To order that no activity of the so-called CPDH be carried out until it presents to the authorities the documents established by Nicaraguan law in this particular instance which accredit the CPDH and its right to carry out its activities.

2. To order that the files and documents of the CPDH be turned over to the custody of the Ministry of Justice until the dispositions listed under point 1 are complied with.

3. Until a definite decision is made regarding the legal status of the so-called CPDH, to ask the office of communications to implement the disposities for these situations established in Decree No 511 dated 10 December 1980.

4. To caution the members of the so-called CPDH that the dispositions outlined in Article 3 of Decree No 511 and Article 4 of Decree No 488 dated 9 August 1980 will be applied if they engage in activities not contained in legal precepts.

Ministry of Justice. Ernesto Catillo Martinez, minister. Text

As can be expected, we are not familiar with the contents of the legal dispositions referred to by the Sandinist regime. However, we do know about their effects.

The day before yesterday, at 2100, 19 February, the Sandino-communist government proceeded to arrest and imprison Mr Jose Esteban Gonzalez, general coordinator of the CPDH, for having violated the above-mentioned articles in the law on public order and security of the Nicaraguan state.

The violation of the Sandinist laws, which led to the arrest of Mr Gonzalez, consists of the following charge: on 10 February at 1900 a group of five members of the People's Sandinist Army [EPS] arrived at the office of the CPDH, according to them, following higher orders to guard the office. Later, on the morning of 11 February, the number of EPS guards increased to eight. These guards blocked the entrance to the office of the permanent personnel of the CPDH. Likewise, the members of the CPDH who came to investigate the incident were blocked from entering, as were other persons who normally come to request the services of the commission.

That same morning the communique we mentioned was received from the Ministry of Justice.

In light of all these violations, the Nicaraguan CPDH informed the government and the public that the statute on the rights and guarantees of the Nicaraguan people, Article 24, and the Nicaraguan Civil Code, Article 78, establish the right to form associations for legal ends, whether or not legal status has been granted.

The Nicaraguan CPDH protests the illegality of the referent ministerial resolution; likewise, the total silence regarding this issue that has been imposed by placing it under Decree 511, which forbids reports by the spoken, written and televised press on this issue, and the unspeakable abuse of blocking the publication of this prohibition. The Nicaraguan CPDH is reporting this to all international organizations, which is how we heard about it.

We consider this an affront to an institution which has defended human rights and which has courageously denounced all injustices committed both during the Somozist regime and under the present revolutionary state in that neighboring country. This is the situation in Nicaragua under the Sandino-Marxist regime, which not only violates human rights in its own country, but also interferes in Honduras, creating a situation that poses a real danger of international war in Central America.

DEFENSE MINISTER FLORES THERESIN VISITS TAIWAN

For reportage on the visit by Defense Minister Colonel Mario Flores Theresin to Taiwan, see the Taiwan section of the 24 February and subsequent issues of the Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

NICARAGUA

LA PRENSA URGES RESPECT FOR DEMOCRATIC IDEALS

PA240317 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Feb 81 p 2

[Article by Roberto Cardenal: "Patriotism and Political Partisanship"]

[Text] On reading the speeches by Commanders Nunez and Wheelock before the committees of solidarity with Nicaragua and Commander Ortega's speech during the 31 January rally, we can see that there is confusion over the terms "country" and "political party." The three speeches mention the difficulties facing the revolutionary process. Commander Nunez comments on the silence of the international press, which does not publish the good deeds of the revolution but only its errors and says that this is being done to harm Nicaragua. Commander Wheelock speaks of the economic disaster that could befall the country due to external pressures. He says that we could drop to the production level of 1940 but that "we would be guaranteeing the future, that is, the existence of the right to act in the country in a way that best serves our national interests." Commander Ortega speaks of creating militias and of putting the country on a war footing for national defense. He explains this as: "To deepen and strengthen the ideological, political internationalist, and anti-imperialist character of our people and the Sandinist ideology inherited from the heroic Sandinist struggle in the past."

All these speeches are confusing the ideology of the party now in power with the people and their aspirations. They are also creating the impression that all of those opposed to the ideology professed by those in power are also enemies of Nicaragua, the people and their most cherished values.

Some days ago, all announcements dealing with religion were taken off buses because it could displease atheists. This announcement admits that there are atheists as well as believers in Nicaragua. If we had to wage a war to defend atheism it would not involve the whole country, only those who want to defend atheism or to attack those who believe in God. Therefore, we could not appeal to patriotism to fight this war.

If we stop to think why there is an ill-feeling in the world toward the Nicaraguan Government, we would see that it is not because we have territorial disputes, or because we have some products we refuse to sell to other countries which may urgently need it. It is not because we do not want to pay our debts, or because we refuse to trade with someone, or because we are Somozists because all the world helped us to overthrow Somoza); and it is not because we block our highways and keep transporters from other countries from passing, or because we are holding Helen of Troy or some other person.

We believe that the ill-will toward the Nicaraguan Government would not exist if we respected the democratic ideals of America, if we did not forcibly impose an ideology which is alien to our continent, if we followed the rules of the game established in the fundamental statutes and if we respected the ideals of the people who fought against the Somozist dictatorship.

We believe, therefore, that the invasion threats and the dangers of famine hovering over our country could be avoided by following a nationalist policy, independent of those who want to use us as an expendable pawn in the power play of world powers, which will only bring us sorrow and destruction. We believe that the threats of invasion and hunger will disappear only by creating a climate of respect, love and unity among all ethnic minorities, peasants, workers, bourgeoisie and others, and only when we urge all Nicaraguans to understand each other and live harmoniously instead of living the continuous campaign of hatred, disrespect, offenses and even physical aggression against those who do not think as the Sandinist National Liberation Front does.

We remind our rulers that they must seek the well-being of all Nicaraguans and not only of their followers, and also that the main role of a government is to seek the nutrition and security of their peoples.

INSURRECTIONARY PLOT UNCOVERED ON ATLANTIC COAST

PA241634 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] A group of agitators, followers of former Somozist security agent and CIA agent Steadman Fagot Muller attacked a Sandinist armed forces patrol that had been ordered to detain Elmer Prado. An unexpected attack on a 10-member Sandinist armed forces patrol by a group of agitators and followers of prisoner Steadman Fagot Muller led to the painful aftermath of 8 Nicaraguan brothers killed and 10 others injured.

The incident occurred Sunday in Prinzapolka on the Atlantic coast when, with the necessary courtesy, police tried to detain agitator Elmer Prado, a member of the group conspiring in that remote region.

According to the Interior Ministry, four patrol members were unexpectedly attacked and disarmed by the seditious group, which killed them with weapons and knives. The remaining members of the military detachment responded to the attack and, in the ensuing shootout, 4 of the attackers were killed and 10 civilians injured.

When news of these incidents was received at the Sandinist people's army's 5th Military Region, reinforcements were sent in, but Prado and a group of Fagot's followers escaped to the north, heading for Puerto Cabeza. According to our source, the Sandinist forces chasing the group have been instructed to either persuade them to surrender or return their fire if attacked.

Apparently this attack was carried out because state security agents discovered the so-called plan 81, plotted by Fagot, son of a Frenchman and a German woman who for many years exploited the mines and the lumber business in the northern area of Zelaya. The plot by Fagot and the group, which has tried to use the Misurasata organization for its counter-revolutionary purposes, sought to impose on the revolutionary government the separation of the Atlantic coast from the rest of the nation in order to create a separate state. This was to be accomplished through a number of demands, some of which were impossible to meet due to many unforeseen circumstances and the country's economic situation.

It must be borne in mind that through the years Fagot gained great influence in the area of the Sumu and Miskito Indians. He also had ties with the national security office of the now-defunct Somozist guard and with CIA elements. All of this has been duly confirmed by our authorities.

Behind the back of the Misurasata rank and file, Fagot Muller's group has been controlling the outflow of lumber and minerals from that region, charging tolls and committing other abuses. It must also be recalled that Misurasata is an organization created under Sandinist National Liberation Front instructions in the wake of the victory of the Sandinist people's revolution, precisely to learn about and fulfill the Indian communities' aspirations, within the framework of the coast's problems. The revolutionary leadership and the government junta created the Nicraguan Institute of the Atlantic Coast and raised it to the rank of ministry in order to seek solutions to the area's problems.

Our brothers on the coast understand all this well, and they have refused to follow the separatist and counterrevolutionary line of Steadman Fagot's small group or their activities, which our authorities and state security agents have carefully followed for years, until they saw reason to arrest Fagot. The nation's peace has thus been guaranteed, particularly in Zelaya Department where, through deceit, Fagot has tried to create instability.

GOVERNMENT TURNS DOWN CARAZO PLEA FOR GONZALEZ

PA242154 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] A request made by Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo last week in favor of Jose Esteban Gonzalez, president of the Human Rights Commission of Nicaragua, has been turned down by the Nicaraguan Government junta.

We can understand your concern over Gonzalez but this step has been taken according to our laws and is legal, Carazo was told in response to his request.

We can assure you that justice will shine in this new Nicaragua, says the message from the government junta.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES INCREASE IN FUEL PRICES

PA241725 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] Companero Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, and Companero Carlos Zarruck, mines and hydrocarbons minister, yesterday announced during a news conference that fuel prices, except for bottled gas, will be increased effective today.

Bus fares in Managua will remain at 1 cordoba as the revolutionary government is subsidizing transportation by over 230 million cordobas a year.

Prices per gallon will be as follows: premium gasoline 27.20 cordobas, regular gasoline 24.75 cordobas, diesel 14.45 cordobas and kerosene 13.40 cordobas.

U.S. POLICY ON TERRORISM MEANS ARMING FASCISTS

PA250251 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Feb 81

["World Events" commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State Alexander Haig have stated that their government's top priority is the struggle against terrorism.

We have to ask ourselves: What does struggle against terrorism mean for Reagan and Haig? For them it means giving more military and political support to the most reactionary and fascist regimes in the American continent so that they can continue with their plan to exterminate the opposition sectors.

It also means arming the Israeli regime to the teeth, inciting traitor Anwar as-Sadat to intervene in the African and Arab countries, installing new military bases throughout the world, trying to divide the Nonaligned Movement, trying to block the implementation of the UN agreements on South Africa, backing Pakistan so that it will continue its meddling in Afghanistan, and supporting China and Thailand in the war of aggression against the Indochinese countries.

The alleged struggle against terrorism proposed by Ronald Reagan and Alexander Haig also means giving carte blanche to the CIA so that it will freely carry out its activities of espionage, destabilizations of progressive governments, the organizing of mercenary invasions and political assassinations.

It means that the anti-Soviet, and anti-Cuban policy has to be intensified and that this also applies to the other socialist and progressive governments.

This is a very dangerous position for world peace and international detente when we realize that with the argument of implementing this alleged struggle against terrorism, Reagan is trying to justify an increase in the military budget that amounts to $170 billion for the next 5 years. This explains the reactivation of repetitious talk about a Soviet military superiority over the United States.

In doing this, an effort is being made to unjustifiably scare the U.S. people and to justify any internal measure, regardless of how unpopular it may be, for the sake of U.S. security.

It is not accident that the military budget increase requested by Ronald Reagan to Congress is based on this reasoning. It is also no accident that the proposal has been made to cut more than $40 billion from social security expenditures that would benefit the poor, the retired and the unemployed of the United States.

This is perhaps why reactionary groups that agree with, or that are part of, the government--anticipating big protest demonstrations resulting from this antipopular measure and from other measures that will affect the dispossessed sectors of the United States--are now getting involved in reactivating the hated Committee on un-American Activities, which was created 30 years ago and which during the so-called cold war period gained notoriety because of the repressive campaign it waged against all U.S. progressive sectors.

The propaganda campaign unleashed by these groups is also based on the struggle against terrorism proposed by the Reagan-Haig duo. If this committee is reactivated, it will be in charge, as it was in the 1950's, of promoting jailings, mental and physical tortures, persecution and, in many cases, the assassination of many U.S. citizens. In this way--and also by bringing up the specter of communism--they will repress and hinder any demonstration by the people against Reagan's domestic and foreign policies.

It also appears that there will be an intensification of repression against blacks. The Ku Klux Klan has increased its actions and is even receiving military training in several states of the union. A continuation of what the Ku Klux Klan has characterized as an inevitable racial war, has produced a toll of 29 black children and young people murdered in Atlanta and Buffalo in the past 18 months. No one has been arrested.

This surging of racist, fascist and war hysteria in the United States, requires actions from the progressive forces of that country and the rest of the world.

HONDURAN COMMUNIST LEADERS SEE COUNTRY AS U.S. PAWN

PA241426 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 23 Feb 81

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The victory of the Nicaraguan revolution caused the United States to draft a new Central American strategy to prevent similar situations in El Salvador and Guatemala, where the people are waging decisive battles for their liberation.

Following the defeat of the Somozist tyranny in Nicaragua, which was for many years a pawn of U.S. imperialism, Washington decided to create a new counterrevolutionary bulwark in Central America. For this purpose it has been giving military support to Hondurans, where the people's struggle against oppression has not yet reached the level it has attained in Guatemala, and above all in El Salvador.

Viewing these plans, the secretary general of the Honduran Communist Party, Rigoberto Padilla, and other leaders of this organization, Longino Becerra and Mario Sosa, have protested the repression waged by the Policarpo Paz Garcia regime against the leftist forces and peoples organizations. The Honduran Armed Forces, they said, are increasing their personnel day by day and are receiving all sorts of equipment from the United States so they can play the role assigned by Yankee imperialism in its aggressive plans against the Nicaraguan revolution and the heroic struggle of the Salvadoran people.

Padilla, Becerra and Sosa said the senior Honduran Army officers are becoming involved in an arms race that the national economy cannot support and that they tolerate the anti-Nicaraguan activities of thousands of former Somozist guards. These are two aspects, they emphasized, of a single policy in which the interests served are anything but Honduran.

Regarding the Honduran domestic situation, the communist leaders said there is an increase in military and police repression of the population. This is evident, they said, in the brutal torture, with homicidal intent, of the leaders of mass organizations, constant surveillance of leftist political leaders and the operations of paramilitary gangs.

Rigoberto Padilla, Longino Becerra and Mario Sosa also said that the more reactionary sectors of the Honduran oligarchy and of the senior armed forces officers are planning a new military coup to halt the democratization process. These sectors fear that other oligarchic groups may reach power by means of the electoral process.

The three communist leaders also saw a process similar to that implemented by the senior Guatemalan officers, who have in recent years assumed control of several branches of the economy and thereby created a close-knit business-military caste.

They said agriculture, manufacturing, commercial activities, real estate, financial institutions and even essential facilities for large-scale drug traffic is controlled by generals, colonels and lieutenant colonels of the Honduran Armed Forces. These repressive bodies have become the enemies not only of the Honduran people but also of all the peoples of Central America.

HONDURAS SUPPORTS 'AGGRESSIVE' U.S. POLICY

PA250125 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 24 Feb 81

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Rigoberto Padilla, secretary general of the Honduran Communist Party, and Longino Becerra and Lario Sosa, who are members of this political party, recently said in Tegucigalpa that Policarpo Paz Garcia's regime in Honduras has become a counterrevolutionary pawn of U.S. imperialism. The accusation is based on solid facts because it is evident that the Honduran military government supports, with specific actions, the aggressive U.S. policy toward Central America and especially against the Nicaraguan revolution and the liberation struggle waged by the heroic Salvadoran people.

In Honduras, the regime is well aware that thousands of former Somozist guards train there and that they frequently raid Nicaragua to steal cattle, to rob peasants and to murder militia and border guards. The Tegucigalpa regime, not only knows that there are camps of former Somozist guards in that country, it also supports the training going on in them in preparation for a large-scale attack on Nicaragua.

The hostility of Honduran officials toward Nicaragua has gone still further. It has been proven that military patrols provide cover for the former Somozist guards when they withdraw after raiding Nicaraguan territory. Last week, Honduran troops entered Nicaraguan territory four times and attacked border guards of the Sandinist Peoples Army.

The counterrevolutionary campaign of the Honduran military is also evident toward El Salvador, with whose regime it cooperates very much in a common effort to defeat the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN]. On 31 January, Honduran troops stationed in the Salvadoran Morazan department fought the FMLN guerrillas to keep them from inflicting a crushing defeat on the military-Christian Democratic troops in the Guasteca region.

In recent days, the Honduran Army evicted over 20,000 Salvadoran refugees from the Honduran side of the border region. This operation is believed to be the beginning of a greater participation of the Tegucigalpa regime forces in the genocide of the Salvadoran people.

The joint military maneuvers of the Salvadoran and Honduran Armies could not be kept secret with the presence of these thousands of refugees along the border as well as the officials of international organizations which give them medical assistance and food.

Now, after evicting them from the area, the border region will be militarized and Honduran interference in the Salvadoran domestic conflict can be implemented without bothersome witnesses.

Those who promote this aggressive policy within the Honduran military regime should recall that the Nicaraguan people are determined to defend their revolution at any price and that the Salvadoran patriots will be no different. Neither will the Honduran people passively allow the country to be used as the executor of imperialist designs against its Central American brothers.

GRENADA

STATEMENTS OF OUTGOING U.S. AMBASSADOR REJECTED

FL250020 St George's Domestic Service in English 2340 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Statement released on 24 February by the People's Revolutionary Government of Grenada--read by announcer]

[Text] The People's Revolutionary Government is disgusted and disturbed over the recent remarks made by United States Ambassador Sally Shelton to the effect that Grenada has rebuffed the United States against improved friendly relations and that she did not make a farewell visit to St George's because of the lack of interest on the part of the Grenada Government.

These assertions on the part of Miss Shelton [word indistinct] the face of truth and the reality. In fact, as it is by now well known in the region, the People's Revolutionary Government has from the first day of the revolution made every attempt to have good relations with the Government of the United States of America, but on each occasion was rebuffed.

Everyone by now knows that Mr Frank Ortiz, Miss Shelton's predecessor as ambassador, came to Grenada in the early weeks of the revolution to issue imperious threats and directives and to offer our country bilateral assistance in the form of 5,000 dollars. It is also well known by now that the Government of the United States of America first promised and later in fact refused to extradite Eric Gairy to Grenada to face serious criminal charges, including conspiracy to murder.

The [words indistinct] of Miss Shelton is staggering. She claims that it is very difficult for us to believe that they are interested in good relations. Yet, it was the People's Revolutionary Government which sent an invitation to Miss Shelton on 12 December 1980 inviting her to come to Grenada to hold talks with us. That invitation, (?which) was issued to her before she resigned as ambassador of the United States of America, emphasized that the talks should focus on, "certain matters of mutual interest with the view to promoting and developing friendly relations between the government and people of the United States of America and the government and people of Grenada."

It was also the People's Revolutionary Government which sent a cable of congratulations to the president-elect, Mr Ronald Reagan, on 6 November 1980, following his presidential victory. That cable stressed that, "the government and people of Grenada looked forward to maintaining and further developing friendly relations with the government and people of the United States of America."

In his reply, the president-elect thanked the prime minister of Grenada for his message and stated that he looked forward, "to a mutual effort to promote friendly relations between our two nations."

It was also the People's Revolutionary Government that on the inauguration of President Ronald Reagan sent a message to him which also reiterated that, "the government and people of Grenada also looked forward to developing cordial relations with the government and people of the United States of America."

In a further letter to the prime minister of Grenada dated 6 February 1981, Miss Shelton referred to her, "pleasant memories," on her trips to St George's for conversations with the prime minister. Miss Shelton also stressed to the prime minister that, "we both share deep concern about the welfare of the people of Grenada and for the future of the eastern Caribbean." She ended that letter by saying that, "I shall most certainly follow with deep interest the progress of your government and I want you to feel free to call upon me if ever I can be of assistance."

In the light of all this, how could Miss Shelton now make these preposterous, absurd and dishonest statements which we must consider could only have been made for the purpose of advancing her own career.

On the question of aid, we must remind Miss Shelton that notwithstanding repeated requests by us, we have never received 1 cent of bilateral assistance from the United States of America. Indeed, the only offer of bilateral assistance we ever had was the 5,000 dollars offered by Ambassador Ortiz. It is true that we have received assistance from the Caribbean Development Bank, but as Miss Shelton well knows, the CDB, as a regional institution, draws funds from several different governments and agencies, including the United States of America.

We wonder too whether Miss Shelton has forgotten that it was her own government which tried to compromise the 20-year old Windward Island Banana Association and the Regional Integration Movement by insisting that U.S. banana rehabilitation aid to that association following Hurricane Allen must exclude any [word indistinct] to Grenada.

The People's Revolutionary Government wishes to reiterate its position. It has always been interested in developing cordial relations with the government of the United States of America based upon the well established principles of legal equality of states, mutual respect, sovereign integrity and nonintervention in each other's internal affairs. This has always been and continues to be our position.

GUADELOUPE

DOMINICA PRIME MINISTER VISITS FOR TALKS ON ISSUES

LD241623 Paris LE MONDE in French 14 Feb 81 p 3

[Christian Pierre report: "Dominica Prime Minister Makes Good-Neighborly Visit to Guadeloupe"]

[Text] Pointe-A-Pitre--Mrs Eugenia Charles, prime minister of Dominica, an independent state located between Guadeloupe and Martinique, had talks at Basse-Terre on Thursday, 12 February with Guy Maillard, prefect of Guadeloupe, on relations between the two islands. Although this meeting was surrounded with the greatest secrecy, two current issues seem to have been discussed: the "Europe-Antilles-Caribbean" economic summit planned for the end of February in Guadeloupe, which Mrs Charles is to attend, and the problem of Dominican immigrants in Guadeloupe. In agreement with Mrs Charles's government the French authorities made a visa obligatory for Dominican nationals entering Guadeloupe as of 1 December 1980. This measure was to lead to the opening of a French consulate in Dominica.

Some members of the Roseau government are worried about living conditions of Dominican nationals in Guadeloupe. Some 3,000 to 4,000 Dominican immigrants, mainly grouped in shanty towns around Pointe-A-Pitre, live on the fringes of Guadeloupian society, with which clashes are a constant possibility, as was the case in September 1979.

Mrs Charles, who is regarded as pro-Western, wishes to avoid any cause for conflict between her country and the neighboring French department of Guadeloupe.